

**CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA
RESOLUTION # 35-2021**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING AND LOBBYING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KRISTOPHER KNAUSS DBA CONFLUENCE STRATEGIES, INC, TO PROVIDE CONSULTING AND STATE LOBBYING SERVICES AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the City of Whittier ("City") is the municipal government of the community of Whittier, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the City has, for many years, benefited from various forms of State funding and support largely due to assistance from consultants familiar with the state budget process, state agency operations, grant programs, etc; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to maintain active representation in Juneau during state legislative sessions to support and promote the City's legislative priorities and economic and other interests; and

WHEREAS, the City has benefited from its professional relationship with Kristopher Knauss of Confluence Strategies, Inc. (formerly Knauss Group, LLC) for more than twelve years, enabling the City to accomplish many of its legislative goals and priorities; and

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to enter into a four-year contract for the period 2022 through 2025 for an initial annual sum of \$72,000; and

WHEREAS, the Whittier Municipal Code provides that Professional Service providers may be hired on a sole-source basis without a competitive procurement process, and this sole source contract is found to be in the public interest due to Mr. Knauss' historical knowledge of the City's projects, goals and priorities, as well as his unique understanding of, and relationships with, State agencies and representatives; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends the retention of Mr. Knauss as the City's state lobbyist for the period 2022 through 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the City Council authorizes the City Manager to enter into a professional service agreement with Kristopher Knauss, Managing Director of Confluence Strategies, LLC to provide governmental consulting services to the City for the period 2022 through 2025 for an initial amount not to exceed \$72,000, with funding to be included in each year's annual budget. Annual rates beyond 2022 may not rise more than 5% per year without further approval of the City Council.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Whittier City Council on this 12th day of October, 2021. .

ATTEST:


Naelene Matsumiya
City Clerk


Dave Dickason
Mayor

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 2
Abstain: 0